

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 21 January 2015 at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors B Crush (Chairman), K Catt, R Edmond, M Elgar, P Mummery, G Peagram, K Regan, I Robertson, C White, J Wolfenden
8 Parishioners

IN ATTENDANCE: S Durbidge (Clerk to the Council)
Kent County Councillor Geoffrey Lymer
Dover District Councillors Mog Ovenden and Peter Walker
Kent Community Warden Julliette West

001/2015 Apologies: Councillor C Pickaver. **Absent:** None

Declaration of other significant interests:

Councillor G Peagram 006/2015, Councillors B Crush, R Edmond, C White 008/2015.

002/2015 Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting: Minutes of 17 December 2014 were proposed, seconded and approved as a true record.

003/2015 Clerk's Report – on Matters Arising

- Damaged headstone 45a at the Cemetery has been repaired (by the owner).
- The village hall entrance road soakaway has been serviced.
- Fly tipped rubbish has been removed from the Recreation Ground.
- A letter has been sent to the manager of the Co-op store regarding defibrillators.
- A letter was sent to Kent Highways regarding Westcourt Lane soakaway.
- Quotes are being sought for grounds maintenance from English Landscapes, Harmer & Sons and Landscape Services.
- Kent Highways have informed the DDC Planning Enforcement team about the creation of a new vehicular access in Westcourt Lane.

004/2015 Finance:

a) Balances as at 21 January 2015	£
Current Account	641.05
Business Account	69,948.33
NS&I Account - Village Hall	1,794.06
Car Park a/c	3,559.73
b) To approve payments	
English Landscapes (December)	450.08
H C Kennett (Safety inspections, rubbish clearance, repairs, etc)	138.00
I Medgett (Tree contractor arrangement – see 141/2014a)	75.00
S Durbidge (Expenses from 18/12/14 – 21/01/15)	15.60
S Durbidge (Salary from 01/10/2014 – 31/12/2014)	1,641.48
Post Office Ltd (PAYE)	196.00
Wingham Timber (Coldred Forum duck house – see 049/2013c)	484.71
c) The National Joint Council (NJC) 2014-16 national salary award for the Clerk was noted: Pro-rata non-consolidated payment of £100.00 (= £43.24 added to salary) in December and SCP19 to be £9.551 from 1 January 2015.	

- d) **It was resolved that** the precept for the financial year 2015/16 be £36,620.00 less compensating grant £686.00 = £35,934.00 be agreed (see attachment below).
- e) It was noted that NatWest bank is not able to include electronic cosignatories for internet banking at present (see 134/2014c iv).

005/2015 Planning

- a) The Planning Committee Chairman reported on two decisions at the 21 January meeting (see Planning Committee minutes).

006/2015 Shepherdswell & Coldred Parish Plan Association (item brought forward)

- a) The setting up a Parish Council working party to continue the work of the Parish Plan Housing Group, Parish Plan objective H1.1 was considered. It was noted that the Group (which comprised mainly of Parish Councillors) had been considering a single project – one exemption site for a limited number of housing association properties for parishioners who otherwise would have to live outside the village. A Housing Needs Survey had been carried out with Action with Communities in Rural Kent (ACRK) and DDC. It was proposed that a Parish Council working party approach ACRK to seek advice in moving the project forward. **Meeting adjourned to hear Chairman of the Parish Plan Association speak regarding item 006/2015. Meeting reconvened.** It was noted that additional traffic would be generated by any new residential development, probably using existing single track roads. **It was resolved that** a working party seek advice as regards the next steps towards the provision of low-cost housing at Shepherdswell. (Councillor M Elgar being unwell left the meeting at this point.)

007/2015 Recreation Ground

- a) Quotes for signs for each play area gate were considered (see 122/2014b). **It was resolved that** a quote from RK Group be questioned and if lowest be accepted.
- b) A request to use the Scout Hut for craft mornings when the village hall was fully booked was considered. **It was resolved that** providing the hall was not available, the craft group be permitted to use the Scout Hut on a rolling basis.

008/2015 Village Hall

- a) Quotes for a sign for the car park were considered, see 006/2015a above. It was noted that the Village Hall Committee had approved locating the sign between the upper windows facing the car park.
- b) An update regarding planning application for car park extension, Parish Plan objective T3.3 was given. It was reported that the DDC Legal Dept is to provide a unilateral undertaking document to be signed by 10 February (see 149/2014a). Once the undertaking is signed, the application will be approved with a proviso that the boundaries are modified as necessary to screen neighbouring properties from vehicle headlights. It was agreed that a site meeting be held on Saturday 31 January 9:30am to consider this requirement. It was also agreed that neighbouring residents be invited.
- c) Proposed Shepherdswell Preschool Lease: **It was resolved that** professional advice be sought as to whether the rent charge part of a new 30-year lease be the Market Rent of the land and buildings or the Ground Rental value (land only).

- d) Shepherdsweil Preschool extension: The approved plans include the removal of two Hornbeam trees near the front of the hall (Preschool has offered to replace the trees upon completion of the works). **It was resolved that** the trees may be removed as required.
- e) The results of informal meeting held on 10 December to consider temporary allotment proposals and layout, Parish Plan objective C2.4 were considered. It was agreed that the layout shown in the notes (1/3 temporary allotments, 1/3 overflow car park and 1/3 amenity area) be used as a basis to draw-up proper plans for the area. **It was resolved that** a meeting be held with the Allotment Steering Committee to discuss the project.
- f) It was agreed that money raised by village organisations to fund amenities in the new meadow be ear-marked to provide extra parking etc.
- g) A quote to replace faulty entrance road bollard lights was considered. A site meeting on Saturday 31 January 9:30am (see 008/2015b) is to consider options. A decision was deferred to the February meeting.

009/2015 Highways

- a) **It was resolved that** the 'Shepherdsweil' village signs be cleaned and obstructing vegetation cut back at all the village entrances.
- b) **It was resolved that** a request from Approach Road. & Hill Avenue Residents Association for grant of 50% of the cost of 2* bulk bags of MOT type 1 aggregate for pothole repairs (2* £35.00 +delivery +vat) be agreed.

010/2015 Other Items

- a) Quotes for work detailed in the Tree Condition Survey Report 2014 were considered. **It was resolved that** Hart Lee Tree Surgery be asked to carry out the work detailed in the survey report at Coldred and Shepherdsweil Greens (Conservation Approval to be obtained), Meadow View Land, the Plantation and Recreation Ground. Village hall tree work will be decided at a site meeting (see 008/2015b).
- b) A report on the Dover District Annual Town and Parish Meeting held on the 8 December was given.
- c) A suggestion by the Kent Community Warden to ask KCC Trading Standards to set up a Cold Calling Controlled Zone (CCCZ) was considered. **It was resolved that** the Council agree in principal to the setting up of a zone and that further information and feedback from parishioners will be sought.
- d) **It was resolved that** the KALC proposals for the Department of Communities and Local Government consultation on Parish Polls be supported.
- e) **It was resolved that** Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) e-petition calling for the retention of Government investment all Rural Community Councils (including ACRK) be supported.
- f) It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Footpath Warden who having left the village has resigned his post.
- g) It was noted that a draft New Councillor Welcome Pack has been placed in the Correspondence Folder.
- h) It was agreed that a site meeting be held at East Kent Railway on Saturday 7 February at 10:00am regarding a number of noise nuisance complaints received by the Council.

011/2015 Date of next scheduled meeting

Wednesday 18 February 2015 7:30pm in Shepherdswell Village Hall.

Public and press are cordially invited. An agenda will be displayed three clear days before the meeting.

012/2015 Closure of meeting: The meeting closed at 9:30pm

Attachment

PRECEPT FOR YEAR 2015/16:

Estimated total net expenditure 2015/16			£	38,096
ADD FOR:	(a) contingencies (25% of net expenditure)		9,524	
	(b) working balance		<u>1,000</u>	
				48,620
LESS:	Expected balances in hand as at 31 March 2015	30,000		
	LESS: Earmarked reserve: Village hall car park	18,000		
			<u>12,000</u>	
	Precept:		<u>36,620</u>	
	Less: Compensating grant		686	
	Precept Demand:		<u>35,934</u>	
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Annual D Band Parish Council Tax 2015/16 =	£49.04 with D band base rate of	732.71	£0.94	per week
Annual D Band Parish Council Tax 2014/15 =	£48.23 with D band base rate of	725.57	£0.93	per week

Note: 'Governance and Accountability for Local Councils - A Practitioners' Guide' states that reserves (contingencies) may be between 3 and 12 months of gross expenditure

Note: Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting

Reports and Parishioners' Question Time at the Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 21 January 2015 at 7:30pm

Kent Community Warden Julliette West

Julliette reported on the following matters dealt with over the past couple of months: - Nuisance noise (motor bikes and persons) and nuisance bonfire smoke. Stray animals, an excessive quantity of litter deposited at Waldershare Road and fly tipping, lost property, loud residential disturbance and door-step sellers; traffic congestion problems and parking obstructions including parking on private property and a road closure; flooding and welfare issues. Juliette has been partnership working with Trading Standards, Gateway Services, Emergency Planning and Kent Police.

Julliette is considering setting up a Cold Calling Controlled Zone (CCCZ) as she receives a lot of calls expressing concern about these. Such a zone may help in crime prevention and reduce the fear of crime. A CCCZ is designed to prevent unknown callers knocking on doors and collecting, but can be set up so that village charities e.g. Poppy Day collectors are not affected. Small warning/information signs may have to be purchased and installed.

KCC Councillor Geoff Lymer

Geoff reported on Government money now available to assist with pothole repairs, although a new type of asphalt being used seems to be causing problems – multiple visits being necessary to make lasting repairs.

HGVs parking inappropriately have been causing problems in certain areas. Geoff has asked our MP for legislation to align the UK with mainland Europe to control overnight parking.

DDC Councillor Mog Ovenden

Mog reported on the high level of recycling in our area compared with the rest of the UK. Mog reported that Sandwich was having a Neighbourhood Forum meeting to discuss developments and suggested that the Dover West Neighbourhood Forum might have a meeting to discuss possible developments at Lydden Circuit for example.

Mog has arranged with Multipanel UK at Tilmanstone that if their HGVs are seen to use Coxhill, Multipanel UK will impose a fine on the vehicle operator.

DDC Councillor Peter Walker

Peter reported that the Inspector has stated that the Land Allocations Local Plan meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework (*from which Policy LA29: Land to the west of Coxhill, Shepherdswell has been deleted*) although sites not included for development may still get approved by DDC Planning Committee.

The former White Horse ph in Eythorne has submitted an application for bed and breakfast and restaurant use although parking might be a problem.

Parking charges throughout the district have been kept the same as last year.

Peter mentioned that traffic problems in Coxhill and Church Hill have been reported.